

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIMA 05597 111631Z

10

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05

PC-01 /057 W

----- 017908

R 111530Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5878

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 5597

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, PE

SUBJECT: POLITICAL MANIPULATION OF PRESS

REF: LIMA 5300

1. AS JULY 27 DATE FOR PRESS TRANSFER TO SOCIAL SECTORS NEARS, CONTEST FOR POLITICAL CONTROL OF PRESS AND THE JOURNALISTS UNION BECOMES INCREASINGLY EMBITTERED.

2. GOP HAS RESOLVED ONE MAJOR ISSUE BEFOREHAND BY PROCLAIMING THAT THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WILL DESIGNATE NEW EDITORS FOR ADDITIONAL ONE YEAR PERIOD. DECREE LAW DISMISSING FOREIGNERS FROM GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED MEDIAL AND LIFTING JOB SECURITY FOR REST OF PRESS FOR THOSE HIRED LAST YEAR (IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE "INFILTRATORS") HAS INCREASED ANXIETY AMONG JOURNALISTS.

3. IN THE MIDST OF RECENT PRESS TRANSFER TURMOIL, PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY AGUSTO ZIMMERMANN HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY EMBROILED IN A CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING HIS EFFORTS TO COORDINATE UNIFICATION OF JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION BEFORE THE PRESS TRANSFER DATE. ZIMMERMANN, WHO HAD BEEN REQUESTED LAST YEAR BY PRESIDENT VELASCO TO UNIFY JOURNALISTS, HAS IN PAST SEVERAL MONTHS CARRIED ON PERSONAL DUEL WITH ULTIMA HORA DIRECTOR ISMAEL FRIAS, WHO ALTHOUGH TROTSKYITE IN BACKGROUND

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIMA 05597 111631Z

IS NOW A SYMBOL OF THE ANTI-COMMUNIST AND BY IMPLICATION THE

PRO-APRA ELEMENT IN THE PRESS. MORE RECENTLY ZIMMERMANN TOOK ON COMMUNIST FACTION (FPP-RINCON) IN JOURNALISTS GROUP WHICH HE ACCUSED OF ATTEMPTING TO MANIPULATE UNIFICATION TO COMMUNIST ADVANTAGE.

4. ALTHOUGH ZIMMERMANN, WHO THREATENED TO RESIGN FRO HIS UNIFICATION EFFORT, HAS CONTINUED TO RECEIVE FORMAL ASSURANCES OF SUPPORT FROM NEWSMEN IN LL DAILIES AS WELL AS FROM MEDIA REPS, HIS FRENETIC ACTIVITY SEEMS TO HAVE LED HIM TO COMMIT A SERIOUS FAUX PAS. CONFRONTED BY COMMUNIST JOURNALIST GROUP, WHICH ON ONE HAND ACCEDED TO HEAVY PRESSURE AND CALLED OFF ITS SEPARATE CONGRESS TO DISCUSS UNIFICATION BUT ON OTHER HAND CALLED UPON ZIMMERMANN TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT "APRA AND IMPERIALISM" WERE PRINCIPAL ENEMIES OF THE REVOLUTION, ZIMMERMANN DECLARED THAT "MARXIST-LENISISTS ARE TACTICAL ALLIES OF THE REVOLUTION".

5. THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY IMMEDIATELY DISASSOCIATED PRESIDENT VELASCO AND THE PRESIDENCY FROM ZIMMERMANN'S REMARKS DECLARING THAT HIS STATEMENTS HAD NOT BEEN CLEARED AND HE SPOKE ONLY FOR HIMSELF. ACCORDING TO LIMA RUMOR MILL, ZIMMERMANN SUBSEQUENTLY SUBMITTED HIS RESIGNATION AS PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY. RUMOR CONTINUES TO ASSERT THAT ZIMMERMANN'S RESIGNATION HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BUT ANNOUNCEMENT OF IT DELAYED UNTIL SUCCESSOR PICKED AND CIRCUMSTANCES RIGHT.

6. MEANWHILE FIRST OF NEWSPAPER DIRECTORS TO RESIGN (ALL MUST BEFORE JULY 27) HAS BEEN ALBERTO RUIZ-ELDREDGE OF THE LEFTIST DAILY EXPRESO. ALTHOUGH HIS DEPARTURE FROM THE SCENE, IF INDEED HE IS GONE, COULD BE POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT AND CAN ONLY BE SALUTARY FROM U.S. POINT OF VIEW (WE WERE A PRIME EXPRESO TARGET)

.  
MEANINGFUL ANALYSIS OF POLITICAL PREDILECTIONS OF PRESS MUST AWAIT JULY 27 CHANGES.  
DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW, INFORMATION CONTROL, NEWSPAPERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975LIMA05597  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750241-0309  
**From:** LIMA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750765/aaaacgay.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 LIMA 5300  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POLITICAL MANIPULATION OF PRESS  
**TAGS:** PINT, ELAB, PINS, PE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006